

Students vote on an amendment to ASBYU's constitution which would allow candidates who were not full-time students fall semester to run for office. The voting will end today at 5 p.m.

Election will decide candidate eligibility

By VICKI OLTROGGE
Universe Staff Writer

Prospective ASBYU candidates will be biting their nails until the results of the ASBYU constitutional amendment election are announced on Wednesday.

The voting booths have been open since 9 a.m. Monday.

Mike O'Neill, ASBYU attorney general, said voting was steady at the booth on the south side of the Library, but voting at the booth in the step-down lounge ELWC was slow Monday. No tally will be announced until the end of voting.

"It's going to be difficult for the amendment to pass because 10 percent of the student body (2645 students) must vote and it must pass by a two-thirds majority," said O'Neill.

Voting will continue until today at 5 p.m. The results will then be compiled and an official announcement will be made on Wednesday.

If passed, the amendment will change the current ASBYU Supreme Court ruling that a candidate has to be enrolled for the entire previous fall semester to be eligible.

Because of the ruling, at least four potential ASBYU candidates are considered ineligible.

The proposed amendment reads: "Each candidate shall have been a member of the ASBYU for one semester."

Under this amendment, a candidate could have been a student 10 years ago for one semester and still be eligible to run, said O'Neill.

"We want people who run for office to know what is going on," he said.

O'Neill said one of the reasons for the supreme

court ruling was so candidates will have the opportunity to establish academic credentials.

The court's ruling promotes the idea of students working in ASBYU to gain experience and become more qualified before they run for office, said Lindsay Bennion, ASBYU public relations director.

"If you've never worked in student government before it's difficult to step in and take over all the responsibilities," said O'Neill.

"It's going to be difficult for the amendment to pass because 10 percent of the student body (2645 students) must vote and it must pass by a two-thirds majority"

— Mike O'Neill
— ASBYU Attorney General

The supreme court ruling was designed to discourage candidates from dropping out of school during fall semester to work on their campaigns or to make money to run, O'Neill said. "We want to keep it as fair as possible for all candidates."

Those promoting the amendment claim students are denied the privilege to run for office because of involvement in other BYU-valued activities such as LDS missions.

Promoters of the amendment also point out that in past years block students have been able to run for office and the ASBYU Supreme Court has previously ruled that a part-time or fall block is a full-time student, therefore eligible to run.

Anti-ASBYU group provides alternative

By VICKI OLTROGGE
Universe Staff Writer

Students running an anti-ASBYU campaign have been denied the campaigning privileges allowed to other ASBYU candidates.

A group of students tired of the current ASBYU system decided to unite and run as RSBYU (Regular Students of BYU). The RSBYU group is providing a candidate for each office and wants to give an alternative to students who "don't want to put up with the pompous, arrogant attitude emulated by people involved with ASBYU," said Ken Caye, a senior from Graton, Conn., majoring in communications. Caye is the RSBYU athletics vice-presidential candidate.

Because they were one day late registering to run for office, these candidates were told the only way they could run would be by way of a write-in campaign.

"The chairman of the elections committee told us we have the right to run in the elections as candidates but we don't have the same privileges as other candidates," said David Stubbs, a junior from Merced, Calif., majoring in psychology. Stubbs is the RSBYU presidential candidate.

Stubbs said he asked the chairman of the elections committee, Andrew McDonald, if they could campaign by the same rules as the other candidates, which would allow them to pass out 2,000 flyers, make 500 buttons and set up a booth in the ELWC garden court.

"He told me if we did that we would get citations," said Stubbs.

"The write-in campaign must be conducted with the same rules that apply to the other candidates," said Rush Sumpter, of Student Programs.

He said the ASBYU Constitution allows write-ins on the ballot and the elections committee determines the rules for write-in candidates by writing by-laws.

He said last year there was a write-in candidate in the election who made a fairly good showing.

Apparently, no rules have been made this year concerning write-in campaigning.

"The elections committee hasn't discussed write-in campaigning rules, although I believe the by-laws from last year's election are still in effect," said Eric Feller, ASBYU elections committee vice-chairman.

In past elections, write-in candidates have been allowed to campaign in the same manner as other candidates.

The RSBYU candidates believe they are not being allowed to campaign because ASBYU members don't want them in the election.

McDonald could not be reached for comment.

"The ASBYU organization is just a group of friends who want to make sure their friends get elected," said Caye.

Stubbs said when he went to get information about running for office no one would help him.

"They were too busy yacking with their friends," he said.

Stubbs said RSBYU wants to serve the students and get more people involved in student government by changing the image of ASBYU.

"Students are afraid to go to the fourth floor and voice their opinions," he said.

"We want ASBYU to have a casual atmosphere, like in your apartment with your feet kicked up and people say 'come on in let me help you,'" said Caye.

Police report little progress in prime minister's murder

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — The acting prime minister said Monday he will tolerate bodyguards until Olof Palme's murder is solved, but called the ability of leaders to go unguarded an essential element of Sweden's "open, democratic society."

Prime Minister Palme, 59, and his wife, Lisbet, were strolling without guards in downtown Stockholm when a man shot him Friday night. Palme had dismissed

the security men earlier in the day.

Police were reported to be making little progress in solving the murder. The Foreign Ministry confirmed that a claim was made that the Red Army Faction, a West German terrorist group, was responsible, but West German officials discounted it.

Ingvar Carlsson, who had been deputy premier and now is acting prime minister, was chosen unanimously as new leader of Palme's party, the Social Democrats.

Palme had held the post since 1969.

He pledged to continue his predecessor's policies and keep neutral Sweden active in international affairs.

"It has been the Swedish attitude that it is not only up to the superpowers to influence (international events)," Carlsson told reporters.

"Olof Palme's work will not disappear with Olof Palme. We cannot go back to the isolated way of life we once led."

Y's campus crime rate low, police chief urges prevention

By LINDA SHELTON
Universe Staff Writer

Although Brigham Young University is believed to be one of the safest and more crime-free campuses in the United States, students should still not let their guard down concerning self protection.

This was the observation this week from chief of university police, Robert W. Kelshaw, in the wake of national Newsweek's "On Campus" magazine front page article concerning the increase of crime on college campuses — particularly assault against women.

In an interview with *The Universe* this week, Kelshaw encouraged students to get in the habit of not walking alone at night, staying away from heavily wooded areas, and keeping doors locked and windows in study rooms unobstructed.

To prevent assault in areas such as practice rooms in the Harris Fine Arts Center, Kelshaw advised codes to keep the doors locked at all times and windows clear.

"Sometimes paper is put in the windows for privacy," said Kelshaw. "Remove the paper for your own safety. This way custodians or others patrolling the area can look in to see that everything is all right and windows clear."

Kelshaw's remarks came in response to reported concerns of crime on campus and following the front page article in Newsweek concerning the campus crime epidemic in the United States.

In a NEWSWEEK ON CAMPUS Poll, "Thirty-eight percent of the students said they worry either a fair amount or a great deal about crime, and the number rises to nearly one-half among those who know a victim."

Many students do not think they are getting the whole crime story because their institutions underplay damaging information, according to the February, 1986 NEWSWEEK ON CAM-

PUS article entitled, "The Assault on Campus Crime."

Although Kelshaw declined to allow statistics, shown to a *Universe* reporter, to be published, the statistics indicated the rising crime figures across the nation are not true for BYU's campus.

Even though administrative policy will not permit us to release statistics to the public, Kelshaw said, reports of offenses have actually decreased in the past years.

Part of the reason for the decrease, Kelshaw said, is because of added street lights, emergency phones, prevention education programs, chain-link fences in wooded areas and student awareness.

Kelshaw said that further efforts have been made, not because there is a growing problem of physical assaults on campus, but because the administration wants to maintain the highest level of safety possible for all on campus.

"We have policemen in uniform, as well as dressed in street clothes patrolling the campus at night by foot and on bikes. They especially concentrate around the heavily wooded areas," said Kelshaw.

Paul Bringhurst, crime prevention specialist at BYU, encourages joggers to stay on designated pathways and in well-lit areas. Bringhurst also advises running on the left side of the road, against traffic, and to always jog with someone else.

Literature made available for public safety by the university police suggests avoiding walking alone and taking shortcuts through parks, alleys, etc. This will only invite attack.

In case of attack, the literature recommends that the victim use natural defenses such as yelling, biting and scratching to take attackers by surprise, but students should not carry weapons. Improvising with an umbrella, nail file, or keys can be more effective than guns or tear gas because the weapons can too easily be turned against the victim.

Reagan adviser, pollster speaks on campus today

President Reagan's adviser and chief pollster, Richard B. Wirthlin, will speak on "The American Age in the World at Large: What We Think of It; What They Think of Us" in the Kennedy Inter Conference Room (238 HRCB) at 4 p.m. today.

Wirthlin, who is a former chairman of the BYU Economics Department, is currently chairman of Election/Making Information, a survey research firm he founded in 1969.

He is widely known for his work in Reagan's 1980 and 1984 presidential campaigns. "He was one of the few political pollsters that correctly predicted Reagan's 1980 landslide victory stated in *Time* magazine," said Bryce Bassett, administrative assistant to the David M. Kennedy Center for International Studies.

In recognition of his work as campaign director of strategy and planning in the 1980 presidential campaign, Wirthlin was named Advertising Man of the Year by the magazine *Advertising Age*, "the first searcher to be honored."

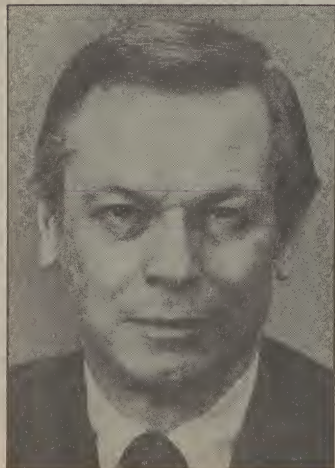
There has been some concern whether the room in which the lecture is to be presented will be adequate for the amount of people.

According to Bassett, they wanted to remain consistent in the location of the Kennedy Center lectures.

Even though the talk might gather a large crowd, the location will remain the same and an overflow room has not been provided, according to Bassett.

Wirthlin received his doctorate in economics from the University of California at Berkeley in 1964. Afterwards, he worked as chairman of BYU's Department of Economics and director of BYU's Survey Research Center.

He also taught at the University of California at San Francisco, and the University of Southern California.



RICHARD B. WIRTHLIN

Satisfaction in teaching will be topic

The subject of "The Teacher as Educator" will be addressed by a professor of education from the University of Washington at today's Forum Assembly.

John I. Goodlad will speak at 11 a.m. in the Marriott Center about the value of teaching.

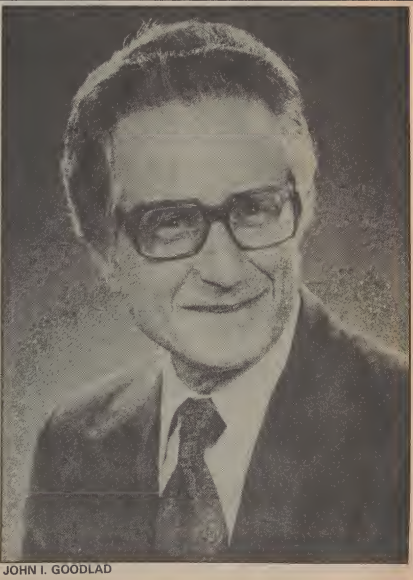
"Although public relations efforts in schooling and education have been dismal failures, teachers in elementary and secondary schools face challenges and satisfactions equal to those of being the healing physician, the caring missionary and the zealous martyr," he said.

He will also explain how BYU and five surrounding school districts have joined in a partnership to improve schools and to make teacher education programs attractive to and demanding of the most able men and women.

Goodlad has taught at several universities in the United States and Canada.

He received bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of British Columbia, a doctoral degree from the University of Chicago and honorary doctoral degrees from several Canadian and U.S. universities.

The talk will be broadcast live on KBYU-TV (channel 11) and KBYU-FM (88.9).



JOHN I. GOODLAD

NEWS DIGEST

Hofmann firearms trial delayed until summer

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Mark W. Hofmann's federal firearms trial will be continued to mid-summer, allowing his attorneys to concentrate on the Mormon documents dealer's upcoming murder trial in two fatal October bombings, a judge ruled Monday.

Meantime, Shannon Patrick Flynn, a close friend of Hofmann's also charged with illegal possession of an Uzi machine gun, changed his plea from innocent to guilty during a Monday morning hearing before U.S. District Judge David Sam.

Sam granted a motion by attorneys Ronald Yengich and Bradley Rich to delay Hofmann's firearms trial, which had been scheduled for Wednesday. Sam set a new trial date for July 30, said his secretary, Susan Doty.

Hofmann, 31, is charged with two counts of first-degree murder in the Oct. 15 booby-trap bomb

slayings of Steven Christensen, a 30-year-old Salt Lake City stockbroker who had dealings in historical Mormon Church documents with Hofmann, and Kathy Sheets, 50, the wife of Christensen associate J. Gary Sheets.

Defense lawyers argued they should be allowed to focus first on the state homicide charges against Hofmann and then turn their attention to the unrelated machine gun count.

Flynn is not charged in the bombings. During a hearing at which Flynn changed his original plea of innocent to guilty, Sam asked him if Assistant U.S. Attorney Bruce Lubeck had offered any incentives for the decision.

Marcos' party leaders pledge to back Aquino

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Leaders of Ferdinand E. Marcos' political party pledged on Monday to cooperate with Corason Aquino and to have her presidency confirmed by the National Assembly, in which they hold two-thirds of the seats.

The nation's central bank said it was taking legal steps to recover documents and money Marcos took with him last Wednesday when he fled the country he had ruled for 20 years.

Demonstrations were reported in two Manila suburbs and a province north of the capital against Aquino's decision to replace some local officials before their terms expire.

In another development, guerrillas of the communist New People's Army killed 15 policemen and four civilians in an ambush in the Bicol region of southern Luzon Island, the Philippine Constabulary said. At least 23 people have been killed in rebel attacks that began at the weekend.

Fireside highlights leader's life

Joseph Smith did not hedge, sidestep or seek to save his own life, but bravely chose to die in the hope that his people might be free to worship God in their own way.

Elder David B. Haight, a member of the Council of the Twelve Apostles of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, spoke on "The Prophet Joseph Smith" at a 15-state fireside in the Marriott Center on Sunday night.

During his talk, Elder Haight reflected on Joseph Smith's dedication to his faith and to the members.

"Greater love hath no man than that he should lay down his life for his friends," Joseph Smith said, quoting the Savior, in his last public address in Nauvoo, according to Elder Haight.

Joseph Smith died at age 38 in the Carthage jail on June 27, 1844 along with his brother, Hyrum Smith.

While in the jail prior to his death, Joseph Smith became depressed, so his companion, John Taylor, sang "A Poor Wayfaring Man of Grief," which can be found in the LDS Hymn book.

Taylor repeated the song in a sadder tone than the first time. After the song, the people in the room heard Joseph Smith murmur "I will." He had decided to die, Elder Haight related.

LDS peculiarity topic of speech

Mormons have often been referred to as a "peculiar people," but why they are unique is not mentioned so frequently.

Dr. Tim B. Heaton, associate professor of sociology, will speak on the Mormon patterns of chastity, conjugality, children and chauvinism which differ from the dominant patterns in the U.S.

The lecture, sponsored by the Society for the Sociological Study of Mormon Life, the Charles Redd Center for Western Studies, and the BYU Sociology Department, will be at 7:30 p.m. in 151, TNRB.

State officials protest proposed dump sites

Elected officials, anti-nuclear activists and property owners in seven states are taking a variety of steps to prevent a high-level radioactive waste dump from being built in their back yards.

Although no site will be selected before 1998 and no operating repository is envisioned before 2006, the prospect of living over atomic trash has outraged many people who say they're concerned about water contamination and plummeting property values.

"I will never let anyone on my property to do any testing and if necessary, I will die for it," Jean Plauto told federal Department of Energy officials at a meeting in Asheville, N.C., in late January.

The DOE plans to conduct field tests during the next few years at sites in Georgia, Maine, Minnesota, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Virginia and Wisconsin. The list of 12 sites is to be trimmed to five in 1991.

Maine, New Hampshire and Wisconsin have questioned the DOE's methods for choosing sites. Maine and New Hampshire are seeking an extension of DOE's April 16 deadline for states to comment on the list of potential sites. DOE has said it will accept and consider comments submitted by the public after April 16.

The site would be the second such repository in the nation. Sites in Nevada, Texas and Washington are under consideration for the nation's first nuclear-waste repository, which is scheduled to be in operation within 15 years.

DOE officials say they anticipated the opposition.

Drugs effective against strokes, analysis says


BOSTON (AP)—The controversial practice of using drugs to treat mild and moderate high blood pressure saves lives and is especially effective for preventing strokes, a new analysis concludes.

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THE DAILY UNIVERSE

The Daily Universe is an official publication of Brigham Young University and is published as a cooperative enterprise of students and faculty. It is produced as a laboratory newspaper in the Department of Communications under the direction of an executive editor and with the counsel of a university-wide advisory committee.

The Daily Universe is published Monday through Friday during fall and winter semesters except during vacation and examination periods. The Universe is published Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays during spring and summer terms.

Opinions expressed in The Daily Universe do not necessarily reflect the views of the student body, faculty, university administration, or board of trustees of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Subscription prices: \$25 per year.

Offices: 538 Ernest L. Wilkinson Center. Printer: Brigham Young University Print Services.

Editor: Mary Alice Campbell; Display Ad Mgr., Jim Pillar; Ad Service Mgr., Tracy Merrill; Ad Art Director, Ron Bell; News Editor, Steve Gardner; City Editor, Mandy Jean Woods; Campus Editor, Gina R. Marcucci Cox; Sports Editor, Tom Walton; Lifestyle Editor, Margaret Hammerland; Editorial Page Editor, Laura Childers; Copy Desk Chief, Bob Harrill; Monday Editor, Sherri Spruance; Night Editor, Susan Page; Photo Director, George Frey; Wire Editor, Angie Holdaway; Asst. City Editor, Rachel Collier; Asst. Campus Editor, Audrey Gadzelgo; Asst. Sports Editor, Melanie Martin; Asst. Lifestyle Editor, Amber Boyle; Asst. Monday Editor, Shannon Marks; Photo Editor, David Siddoway, Jim Beckwith, Kelly Wamborg; Senior Reporter, Ed Wright; Elizabeth DeBerry; Editorial Page Asst., Cynthia Anderson; Teaching Asst., Brack Schuster; Morning Editor and Receptionist, Gina Jensen; Afternoon Asst. Editor and Receptionist, Diane Burhoe; Unites Editor, Carma Hoynacki.

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Bart Czitr, Nuclear Physicist, Adjunct Professor of Physics
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Terrorism: Its Causes and Solutions
Bonnie Cordes, Research for Rand Corp.
3 p.m. 321 ELWC
A Philosophy of Peace in a World of Conflict
J. Bonner Ritchie, Professor of Organizational Behavior at BYU
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The announcement was made by Chrysler Corp. Chairman Lee A. Iacocca, former head of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation Inc. He was joined by Sen. Ted Kennedy, D-Mass., TV journalist Barbara Walters, authors Theodore H. White and Alex Haley, historian Arthur Schlesinger Jr., and other members of the committee that chose the win-

The recipients "represent the beauty and hard work; the sacrifice, the perseverance of all our parents and grandparents, all 17 million of them," said Iacocca, whose parents were Italian immigrants.

The awards will be made by President Reagan aboard the carrier USS John F. Kennedy on July 3.

Next class starts March 17



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Today is the last day to vote on candidate eligibility.

It's up to the students to decide on who can run for student government officer.

Should students who run have to have been students the fall semester prior?

You Decide!

Voting Booths are in Step-D Lounge, South of the Library the SUWIT and the Tanner Bldg.

Week (Chastity, Conjugal Love, Children, and Chauvinism)
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Associate Professor of Sociology,
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ooo Cosmo!

BYU #00

The roar of the crowd is just a memory. The clean-up crew is busy removing the refuse from the stands. The sun sets on the Marriott Center where another victory has carved its mark in the annals of BYU basketball history.

The lone steps of Cosmo the cougar echo down the empty corridor as he walks to the locker room after signing the crumpled program of the last 10-year-old fan. He is tired, thirsty, sweaty and happy.

Thirty minutes later, Scott Bateman, ordinary student, walks out of that same locker room, the lifeless Cosmo suit draped over his arm.

"Having close to 22,000 fans know who you are and what you're doing and then walking out a half-hour later as any other person is an incredible phenomenon. As Cosmo, I wear the head and am an instant celebrity. Then I take it off and I'm an instant unknown," said Bateman, a senior from Dallas, Texas, majoring in chemistry with plans to go to medical school in the fall.

As Cosmo, Bateman lives as Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde existence. By day he dons a white lab coat and safety glasses to mix formulas in the chemistry lab. By night and on weekends he steps into Cosmo's fur to excite fans and entertain crowds as BYU's No. 1 fan.

For Bateman, being Cosmo has been a type of escapism because he can become a character who is not inhibited by the chains of propriety. "I've found that there is a really fun thing inside of me. I always knew it was there, but couldn't let it come out while I was in pre-medical classes," he said.

The tradition of secrecy about Cosmo that is as old as the character itself is one that Bateman says

should be maintained, even though sometimes remaining anonymous is difficult.

"Last March after I got Cosmo I was so rambunctious inside that I was ready to pop because I wanted to tell everyone. I called Mom and Dad, and then had to stop. But half of the fun has been the secrecy of it," he said grinning.

Accounting for absences has been a challenge for Bateman and his roommates. He says they had to cover for him by telling callers and visitors he's out for the moment. "How do you explain to someone that I'm in Hawaii just on the weekend that it happens to be a BYU football game?" he says.

However, he says, the secrecy can be a great tool for entertainment. "There is nothing more fun than finding someone in the crowd who I'm really good friends with and they have no idea I'm Cosmo. I like to fool around with them no end," he says.

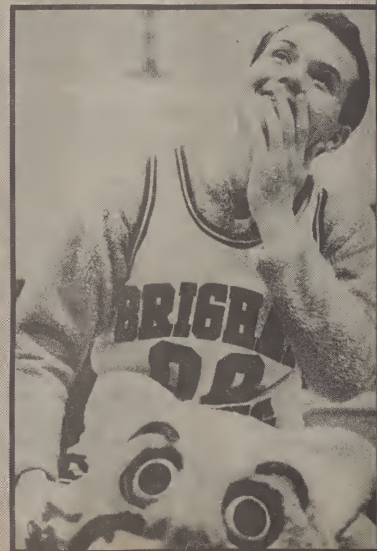
Some might say the transformation from instant celebrity to instant unknown takes a toll on the identity of the private citizen. However, Bateman says that being Cosmo can only build his self esteem.

"When the Cosmo suit is here it's pretty lifeless, but when I get into it, all of the sudden it takes on my characteristics. Although it's a very inanimate thing, what makes the suit move and makes the fans respond, is really me," he said.

He says that in spite of the fact that he is borrowing from Cosmo's long established "classy reputation," he is still in charge of the character.

"When I find that the crowd is responding to me, I realize that it's me, even though I know Cosmo has a great reputation. I have to live up to the reputation that Cosmo has."

Story by
BARBARA ARMSTRONG



Photos by **BRIAN HECKERT**

SPORTS

Y tennis team defeats Aggies

Win makes it two in a row

By JORDAN COX
Universe Sports Writer

For the first time this year, the BYU men's tennis team put together back-to-back wins by defeating Utah State Monday afternoon at the Indoor Tennis Courts.

The win over USU, coupled with the win over Weber State last Tuesday, improves the Cougars record to 4-10 on the year.

The victory gives BYU momentum going into Thursday's match against Utah which is one of the tougher teams in Region VII.

"The good thing about the match today was that it helped us to get ready for our tough matches this weekend," said BYU coach Larry Hall. "We want to get rested for Utah so we can be at our peak."

Utah boasts five players ranked among the top ten in Region VII, while BYU has two in Robert-Jan Bierenes and Greg Hayward. Andy Olyphant leads the Utes followed by Antti Eranne, Christian Schultes, Jar Koho and Brian Monson.

In doubles play, the teams of Monson-Olyphant and Jenno Morson-Schultes are ranked number three and six for Utah, while the Cougars have three teams in the top ten.

Y spikers cruise to three-set win over Lethbridge

The Cougar men's volleyball team swept a three-game series against the University of Lethbridge on Friday night in the Smith Fieldhouse — 15-7, 15-7 and 15-11.

"It was really a fun match. Everybody got to play," said Coach Tom Peterson. "BYU capitalized over Lethbridge in the first game, never losing the lead."

In the second game, Lethbridge scored first but the Cougars bounced back quickly. One of the key offensive players in this game was Lane Peterson who made some strong hits.

The Cougars will now travel to California to play in the Long Beach Invitational this weekend.

This prestigious tournament will feature BYU, Long Beach State, Penn State and San Diego State.

Women cagers end home slate against Aggies

The BYU women's basketball team will finish out its home basketball season tonight in the Marriott Center as it hosts the Aggies from Utah State University. The Cougars are looking to get back on the winning track.

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Friday, March 7, 1986

Harris Fine Arts Center

Pre-Ball Show 8:00 p.m., Ball 9:00 p.m.

Pre-Ball Show Refreshments by BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY SERVICES

Pre-Ball \$16.00 per Couple, Tickets at the HFAC Music Ticket Office, Ball Only \$16.00 per Couple, Sponsored by the ASBYU Culture Office.

UNIVERSITY FORUM & DEVOTIONAL

MARRIOTT CENTER

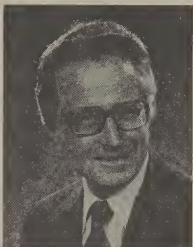
John I. Goodlad
Professor of Education,
University of Washington

Tuesday, March 4, 1986
11:00 a.m.

"The Teacher as Educator"

From the time of such legendary figures as Ichabod Crane and Mark Hopkins, the stereotype of teachers in elementary and secondary schools has been something less than inspirational. And recent studies reveal that classrooms, more often than not, are places where teachers talk endlessly and students are passive.

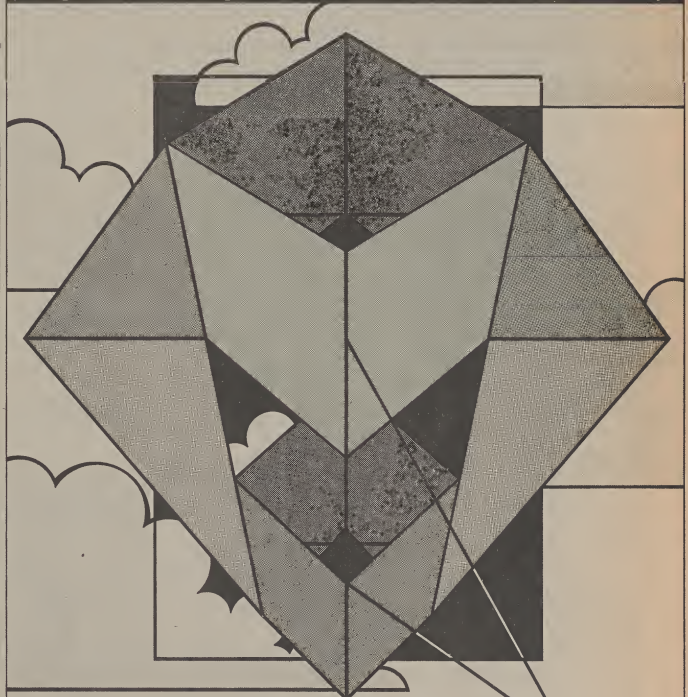
Yet novels attest to and the experience of each of us validates another quite different picture of what education is and what creative, compassionate teachers do. This other image is similar to the one we often conjure up in thinking about physicians who heal, missionaries who serve and sacrifice, and martyrs who risk all in the cause of human freedom. Clearly, any advertising firm would tell us that our public relations effort in schooling and education has been a dismal failure. Just a little



reflection makes it clear that being an educator, in the full sense of what that word means, offers challenges and satisfactions equal to those of being the healing physician, the caring missionary, the zealous martyr.

In order to make schools the educative places they should and must be, and teacher education programs attractive to and demanding of our most able men and women, Brigham Young University and five surrounding school districts have joined in a partnership of mutual commitment and dedication. The Partnership is joining, in turn, with a dozen more in a national network designed not just for better public relations but for the revitalization of education in schools and of teaching as a profession.

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OPINION

Eligibility rule should change

Today is the final day to vote in the special election for a proposed constitutional amendment to change eligibility requirements for ASBYU candidates.

The underlying issue of the vote is whether ASBYU candidates should be required to attend an entire fall semester before they launch a campaign for office in the spring. A vote for the proposal, which opposes the semester attendance idea, is in the best interest of all students.

The current rule, based on a recent ASBYU Supreme Court decision, unnecessarily excludes full-time fall block students from becoming candidates. This is a discriminatory policy.

Amendment opponents believe a candidate who has been enrolled for the entire fall semester is not likely to be aware of the current issues or be in touch with the feelings of the general student body. Although these are worthy concerns, opponents ignore some simple facts and the problems the rule creates.

Simply "being on campus" for a semester does not make one familiar with issues. Winning candidates will uncover the issues as they talk to students, research problems and propose viable solutions. Like a well-written term paper, a candidate's campaign should synthesize interviews and research. Realistically, the process could be completed within a few weeks.

Proponents of the present eligibility rule have forgotten what we should be voting for in an election. It should not matter how long a candidate has been at BYU, but what qualifies him to be a student leader.

Experience, training and willingness to serve fellow students should far outweigh the length of a candidate's BYU stay in election decisions.

The current eligibility rule also limits returned missionaries, and others who return at fall block after an extended absence, from becoming candidates.

Ultimately, students should have the right to decide who will be their leaders. Similarly, anyone who becomes a full-time student during fall semester or block should not be deprived of the opportunity to be elected by his or her peers.

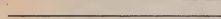
Only those editorials labeled "Universe Opinion" reflect the formal positions of this paper, its management and editors.

Such opinions, however, do not necessarily represent the official view of the university administration.

All other editorial commentaries, including editorial cartoons, represent the opinions of the respective authors.

The Editorial Board of The Daily Universe meets each Thursday at 3:15 p.m. in room 562 of the Wilkinson Center. We encourage all who are interested to attend.

UNIVERSE OPINION



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Clean fun?

Editor:
I was interested in reading the story by Vicki Oltrogge titled "Forget Jello, try spaghetti!" (Feb. 26). How reassuring to know that the social clubs on campus are engaged in such good, clean fun as well as the service projects which other letters to the editor and news stories have commented on in defense of the clubs.

I have a suggestion which would benefit the clubs by combining the two activities. I agree that there is nothing morally wrong with spaghetti wrestling except that it might be considered a bit wasteful in light of the hunger which grips a large segment of the world's population. (At least, I assume that the pasta is relatively inedible at the conclusion of this good, clean fun).

Therefore, why not make it a service project to collect the garbage from the Cougarate and other campus restaurants — such service might even be extended to city eateries — and fill those wooded frames with the plastic tarp on the bottom with the leftovers and wrestle in them? After all, the garbage is just going to waste as things are now.

This would be a real savings to the university and a conservation of needed food and would serve both aims of the clubs. I hope Mr. Sawatzke, et al. will give it serious consideration.

Mac Blanch
English Department

It's morally wrong

Editor:
In regard to David Sawatzke's feeling of not seeing anything morally wrong with wrestling in various foods (Feb. 26), I'd like him and all CDU members to know that I can supply them with names and addresses of LDS members behind the Iron Curtain who would weep with joy at the sight of a few packages of spaghetti or Jello.

Peter G. Czerny
Media Production Department

Faulty flyer

Editor:
Monday morning on my way out the door to school I found a flyer concerning the present change in the (ASBYU) constitution. This flyer contained numerous misleading statements.

First, it stated that many students

were ruled ineligible because they were full-time students fall block and not full-time students the fall semester.

The flyer stated that the ASBYU Supreme Court had ruled in previous years (before 1980) that block students could run. (In fact, the Supreme Court overruled these decisions . . . the Supreme Court has only overruled its past rulings as is done in the U.S. Supreme Court.

Before you vote on this amendment, consider the implications of this amendment. Is a student who attended BYU one semester two years ago qualified and in touch with the needs of the student body enough to be its representative?

— Timothy J. Burt
Fullerton, Calif.
and five others

Intellectual giants

Editor:
We know that Electrical Engineering students are often thought of as intellectual giants who are apathetic toward anything unrelated to computers and microchips. We would like to dispel that awful rumor by making a stand on several issues of great concern and importance. We

hope to demonstrate that Electrical Engineering students are not only intelligent, but are also very interested in crucial decisions that must be made in today's complex world.

First and foremost, we would like to address the burning issue of including the Bloom County comic strip in The Daily Universe. We vote "yes!" A resounding yes. We support Opus, Milo, Binky, even Steve Dallas and Bill the Cat.

Second, we have formed an organization called CEASE (Concerned Engineers Against Stupid Elections). We firmly believe that ASBYU as a body of government is ineffectual at best and an embarrassment at worst (remember the infamous "mooning" incident?).

Since so many of the ASBYU officers fail to complete their terms of service, why continue the election sham? We call for student volunteers to work with the administration to improve student life.

We welcome mature and responsible replies to these suggestions. We are available for discussion and comment in the Clyde Building lobby during normal study hours.

Mark F. Wright
and five others

Don't help farmers

Editor:
Americans have been watching too much Little House on the Prairie. A recent New York Times-CBS survey indicated that 56 percent of American taxpayers would support a tax increase to aid farmers in financial trouble. Though farmers do face difficult times, in many cases they have driven themselves into the heart of the crisis.

During the seventies land prices increased dramatically, helped by the subsidies and price supports of the government. Farmers used their increased equity to take out loans and to buy new land. But favorable food prices and high land values tumbled. At today's food prices farmers who borrowed heavily at high interest rates and bought over-priced land cannot cover the cost of the land by farming. The high price of the land outstripped its value as an agricultural input.

Government intervention in farming ranges from federal milk orders to tobacco price supports. Yet farmers want more aid. Maybe public ownership of farms is the answer. Are taxpayers willing to go that far?

A former dairy farmer referring to the government's program to buy surplus milk when commenting the yell: "If you're dumb enough pay taxes to bail out farmers, why dumb enough to pay for milk, don't drink."

Brent Pe
Meridian, Ia

We love Opus

Editor:
We would also like to support ka Cooper's (Feb. 20) proposition to replace Peanuts with Bloom County. Why not have both? We love Opus, Dave La, Odgen, U and eight of

Editor's note:
The Daily Universe welcomes reader letters.
All letters should be no more than one page, typed, double-spaced.

Name, identification number, hometown and local phone number must be included.
The Daily Universe reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and length.

Lawsuits raising insurance rates

The byword nowadays seems to be, "I'll sue."

Consequently, the soaring cost and worsening shortage of liability insurance has taken its toll on businesses, professionals and local governments across the country. The crisis is forcing price increases, profit cuts, elimination of some products and services and many changes in operation.

One of the biggest problems, according to a Wall Street Journal survey, is rising insurance premiums.

For example, one small claim, filed by a business having no previous claims, may cause premiums to double, triple, quadruple and in some cases rise out of sight. And while the premiums rise, the coverage, along with the deductible, drops drastically.

While the rising cost of medical malpractice insurance has dominated the headlines, malpractice premiums for architects, engineers and accountants are rising even more sharply.

Local governments, meanwhile, are going without all or part of the liability coverage they had in the past. Lafayette County, Mo., closed its jail for seven weeks and sent 10 prisoners home because its policy was not renewed.

Boston has been without liability insurance since the end of 1984, when a policy covering claims over \$1 million was cancelled.

In some big companies, premiums are rising by as much as 500 percent

for 90 percent reductions in coverage by the Journal reports.

Smaller companies, by comparison, are merely closing their doors. American Trucking Association reports more than 100 companies have liquidated and more are expected to because of increased insurance costs.

And while insurers acknowledge that many of their financial woes are self-inflicted, they claim a serious problem is the rising cost of defending and settling lawsuits, paying big jury awards.

To combat the rising cost of insurance premiums, lobbyists are trying to put a cap on pain-and-suffering awards, eliminate punitive damages, limit the percentage of awards that can go to plaintiffs' lawyers, requiring big awards to be paid over a period of years rather than in a lump sum, and are allowing introduction of evidence about other payments a victim may receive (such as medical benefits or workers' compensation).

Plaintiffs' lawyers and consumer groups, on the other hand, claim that insurers are simply passing the cost on to consumers.

But others who have found it necessary to form self-insuring groups say, "There are too many lawyers there; let me put it another way. There are too many lawyers."

— Onetta Su



"HEY WATCH IT BUDDY! IVE GOT THE RIGHT OF WAY!"